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The Playground

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The Playground

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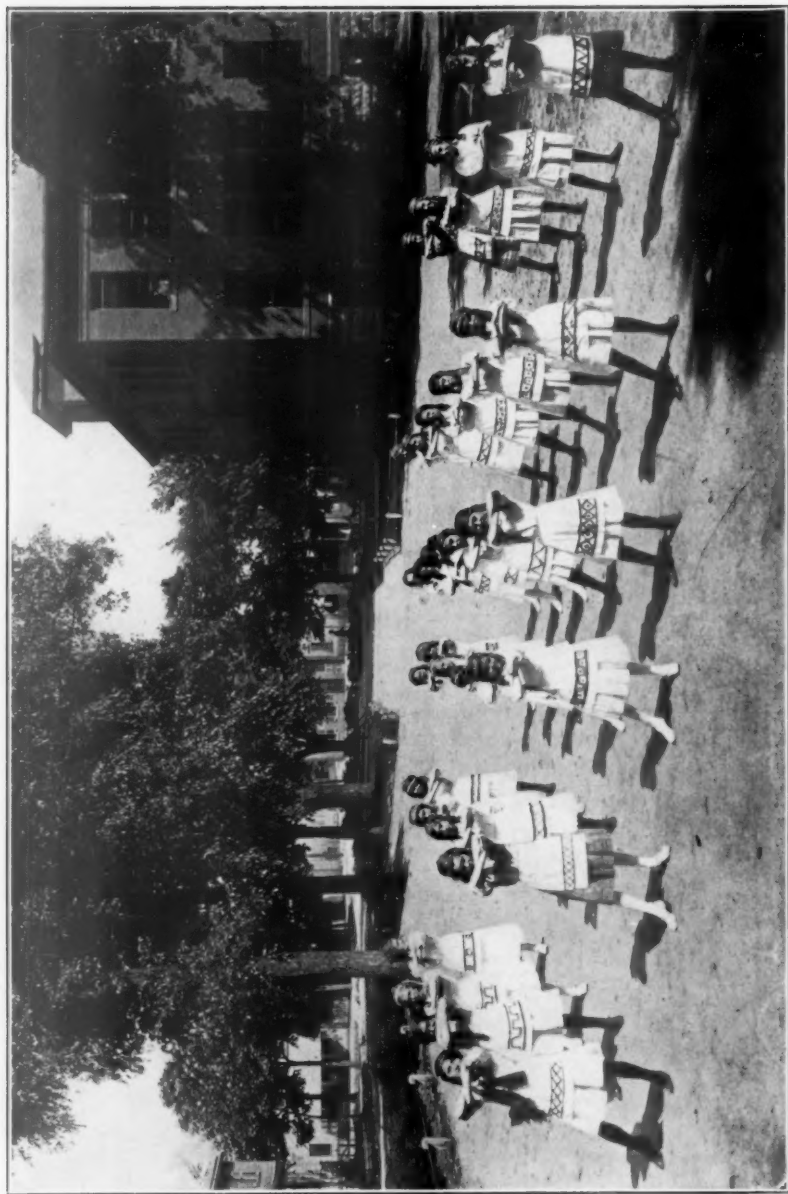
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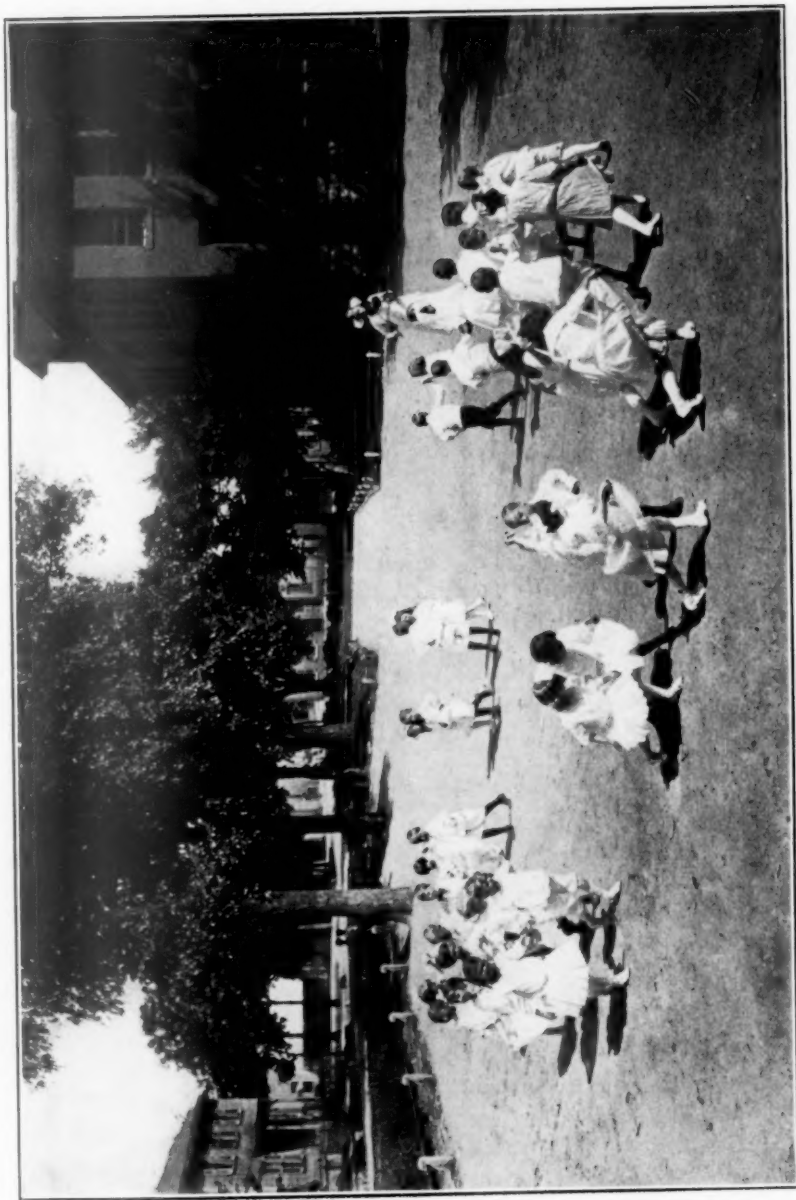


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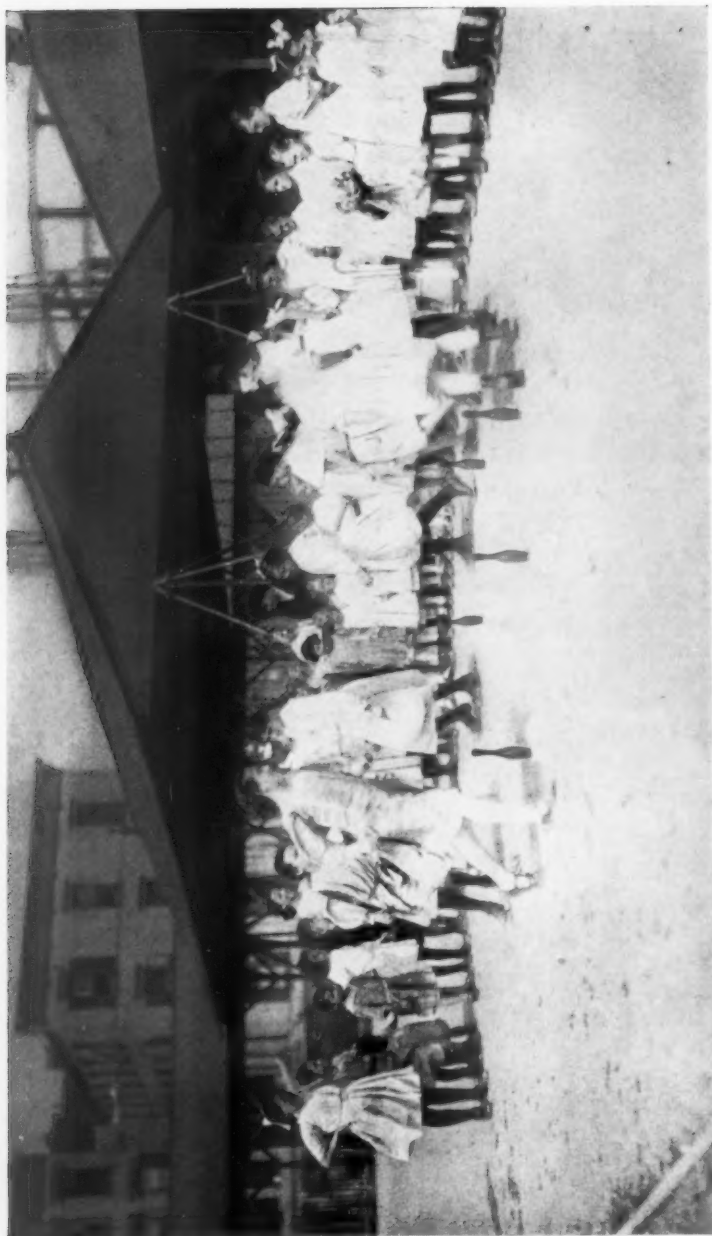


Dubuque, Iowa

Each grade in the Dubuque public schools is assigned one folk dance at the beginning of the term and this is taught during the regular physical training period. The dances for the past year were: first grade, Swedish Klap Dance; second grade, Ace of Diamonds (Danish); third grade, Virginia Reel; fourth grade, Finnish Dance; fifth grade, Scottish Reel; sixth grade, Hungarian Cardas; seventh and eighth grades, May Pole Dance.



Dubuque, Iowa



Thomas Jefferson Park, New York

IN AND OUT WITHOUT KNOCKING OVER THE INDIAN CLUBS—SINGING AS THEY GO

A BEAUTIFUL LIFE

A balance of \$17,000 remaining of the \$78,000, appropriated by Congress, through the efforts of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, for the purpose of cleaning up the alleys of the national capital, was expended in converting Willow Tree Alley into a combination park and playground. It is still enclosed on four sides, however, and it is hoped that later it may be possible to get an appropriation for purchasing the property surrounding so that the whole may become a splendid, open playground. The children, as well as the adults of this district, will long be grateful for Mrs. Wilson's beautiful life.

Some of the children on the Dallas playgrounds suggested that a memorial service be held at the hour of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson's funeral. The children placed the flag at half mast and with the best music that they could secure sang the hymns which were said to be Mrs. Wilson's favorites. One of the ministers of the city was called upon to speak a few words in memorial of Mrs. Wilson's public service.

TREBLING THE USE OF THE PLAYGROUND

William Wirt, of Gary, Indiana, who has been retained by the New York City Board of Education as a "consulting agent" in introducing pre-vocational training into six elementary schools, advocates better use of school, library and playground facilities through an altered schedule of hours of use. "It has been demonstrated that four hours in the school class rooms, supplemented by one hour of suitable activity in the school auditorium are worth more than five hours in the classroom alone. After three in the afternoon the playgrounds are overwhelmed with children and are utterly inadequate for the number using them. By alternating the children between the school auditorium, workshops, library and playgrounds, one-third of the children may be in the auditorium, while one-third may be on the playground and the remaining one-third in the workshops and libraries. Such an alteration would treble the capacity of these facilities. If the facilities are to be used continuously during the day, better equipment and leadership and higher cost of operation are justifiable.

BETSY HEAD MEMORIAL PLAYGROUND

"The wasted street time of the child must be eliminated—also the wasted time of the playground. It is the business of the schools to keep the child in the best condition to be taught."

BETSY HEAD MEMORIAL PLAYGROUND

The breaking of ground for the Betsy Head Playground in Brownsville, New York City, took place with impressive ceremonies under the auspices of the Public Recreation Commission on the afternoon of Friday, October fifteenth. A parade of 2,000 school children of the district and the raising of the Stars and Stripes preceded the official breaking of ground by General Wingate, president of the commission. Work will be pushed on the new playground which, when completed, will have all the accessories of a splendid modern recreation park, mother's pavilions, swimming tanks, tennis courts, ball fields.

The \$189,000 received by the city through the will of Betsy Head will be used in equipping the four-acre field which was purchased at a cost of \$325,000, assessed upon the property owners of Brownsville.

AN EXPERIMENT IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

A joint committee of the Board of Education and the Board of Playground Directors recommended the following plan for the extension of playground supervision. The report was adopted by both boards in April, 1914.

1. That the board of playground directors of the city of Oakland be given the general control and supervision of the activities, including the appointment and control of playground teachers and the equipment of the elementary school playgrounds outside of school hours
2. That wherever practicable this supervision be exercised in behalf of adults as well as school children, and include all school athletics, games, plays, dancing, evening recreation centers in school buildings, exclusive of the needs of the school department, shower baths, dressing rooms, playground supply room, pageants and festivals

AN EXPERIMENT IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

3. That the superintendent of recreation of the city of Oakland be made exofficio director of school playgrounds
4. That the expense of equipment, maintenance and instruction of the school playgrounds be borne equally by the board of education and the board of playground directors of the city of Oakland
5. That the relation of the director of school playgrounds to the school principal shall be the same as that of other assistants of the superintendent of schools
6. That the school principal shall be responsible for the school playground and for the conduct of the playground supervisors, when he is present; and that playground supervisors shall be responsible to him when he is in charge of the school
7. That copies of all rules and regulations governing school yard playgrounds or recreation centers or playground supervisors shall be furnished to school principals
8. That the director of playgrounds shall have no control of physical education activities held during school hours, but that he shall exercise general supervision over such activities and of playground supervision outside of school hours, on holidays and during vacations

We believe the adoption of this plan will prove a benefit to the community and will make for greater efficiency and economy in management. By combining playgrounds and recreation centers under the same department with the municipal grounds there will be a saving in overhead expense and since the recreation department already employs a superintendent and maintains an organization, we shall avoid duplication of officials.

This plan arises from actual experience in other cities and is in line with the tendency for centralized authority and fixed responsibility in municipal government.

There is an urgent demand on the part of the people for the wider use of the school plant outside school hours. The adoption of this plan will provide for the use of school grounds and buildings and can be made to meet the desires of the people if sufficient funds are provided.

A great saving will be effected in future expenditures for improvements and purchase of land for playgrounds if we use

CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL CENTERS

the present school property as a nucleus in each section of the community.

We believe the need for playgrounds should be met by selecting a number of schools in various representative sections of the city, particularly in those districts not served by existing playgrounds. These schools should be selected with reference to area, attendance, and location. Many school grounds are too small to be useful as regular playgrounds. Some grounds are suitable to be used after school hours on school days only, and should be closed on Saturdays and holidays. A few school grounds are too small or the school attendance too low to warrant their being opened in any case.

A further reason for this procedure is for economy in cost. This being a new department of the school activities it is unlikely that funds can be secured to open and supervise all school playgrounds even if this were advisable.

The plan presented herewith will meet the most urgent play needs of the community for the present and may be accomplished with funds obtainable in the next annual school budget.

GEO E. DICKIE	} <i>Joint Comm.</i>
<i>Supt. of Recreation</i>	
A. S. BARKER	}
<i>Supt. of Schools</i>	

CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL CENTERS

At the conference on social centers held in Madison, Wisconsin, in June and July, emphasis was laid upon the great need of leadership if the social center movement is to accomplish what it is possible that it should. Miss Margaret Wilson, speaking on this topic, said: "We have got to build the machinery of democracy ourselves. We cannot have it made and handed to us and then be told how to use it. We must build it ourselves and use it ourselves. We are all a little lazy and a great many of us are not enterprising and even though the school buildings are open we need somebody to beckon us into them. No organizing has ever been done without an organizer. This organizer must be our secretary.

"This work must be done by a paid public servant. This job of civic secretary is going to be one of the greatest jobs in every

CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL CENTERS

community. The school men are the men to do this. They are the men who can best bring us together in order that we may educate one another."

A message from President Wilson expressed his "sincere and growing interest in the program and method" of social center development. The United States Commissioner of Education, P. P. Claxton, giving the chief address at the opening meeting, strongly endorsed the official recognition of community organization as public service, especially that the school principal, or some other appointee of the school board, should be chief clerk of the election, when the schoolhouse is used as a polling place. Superintendent J. H. Mills, of Ogden, Utah; C. C. Kelso, of Los Angeles, and Mrs. M. L. Purvin, of Chicago, gave experiences in social center work which had brought many of the people in their respective states to a recognition of the need of legislation to place community service of this type upon an official basis.

The conference approved a proposed amendment to the present law of the State of Wisconsin providing that every school district which is organized for social center work shall provide a civic secretary who shall be responsible for the conduct of the meetings and the securing of speakers. He shall be compensated at the rate of not less than two dollars for each meeting of the citizens' organization, half of which shall be paid by the school board, half by the State.

The girl without a play center is mother to the woman without a home.

CLARENCE A. PERRY

UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION OF THE VALUE OF PLAY

Every part of America manifests increased interest in recreation. At the annual conference of mayors and other municipal officers of the State of New York, Mayor O'Neill said that one reason it was difficult to eradicate social evils was because of the lack of innocent amusement. Walter Weyl writing of the new democracy says, "City playgrounds are expensive, but are cheaper than burial grounds." Hon. Robert Speer, formerly mayor of Denver declares, "Cities are measured today more than ever before by the happiness of the people. That city is the greatest which gives to its citizens the most in protection, education, recreation, amusement and beauty."

In a recent address at Utica, N. Y., Governor Glynn said: "Around our public schools I would have playgrounds, no matter what the cost. The springtime of youth is the time to inculcate the idea of equality and fraternity, and there is no better place to do this than on the playground of sport and youthful rivalry."

Charles W. Eliot writes, "I have been glad to see how rapidly the playground campaign has succeeded. In China, it was quite extraordinary to realize how the complete absence of out-of-door sports has affected the physical condition of the governing class and the temper of the whole people."

"Better than anything that has been developed in Europe are the children's playgrounds in the Chicago park system," was the opinion of M. A. Schramack, director of the French prison system.

A New York business man writes:

**In Glasgow Sixty
Years Ago**

In reply to your query of the 6th, I wish to say I enjoy all information as to what is being done in the direction of playgrounds. Had I the means there would be one at least every 20 city blocks. I had to get my play on the dirty streets of Glasgow, Scotland, about 60 years ago and can remember how we were hounded by the police. We seemed to be running against snags all the time, and I know while I was no angel, I was far from being a bad boy. I began work at 9 and am in harness yet, but I love to see the children at play especially where there is some one overseeing it, so that the strong are kept in control and the weak have a chance to develop and enjoy themselves.

The California Development Board,—a league of all the

UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION OF THE VALUE OF PLAY

commercial organizations of the state, formed in the interest of making the towns and cities of the state ready to handle intelligently the influx of immigrant population expected as a result of the opening of the Panama Canal,—sent out letters to the organizations throughout the state, calling attention to the need of recreation and its relation to the problems of immigration.

Medical men are increasingly recognizing the relation of recreation to their problems. Dr. Krause recommends sane sport as the best insurance against old age for a man of fifty years. The Board of Public Instruction of the Allegheny County Medical Society declared itself an earnest advocate of play not only for children but for men and women. Dr. Mabon, Superintendent of the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane says, "The horrible monotony of specialized labor is doing a great deal to unbalance the minds of the workers. There is nothing so restful as variety." If this variety cannot be found in labor, can it not be found in play?

An experienced worker in anti-tuberculosis ranks, Dr. S. A. Knapp, protested against curtailing the amount expended for physical training in schools. He asserted that proper physical exercise in a child predisposed to tuberculosis will do wonders towards making that child a strong adult. "If something has to be curtailed, let it be branches which demand indoor life and sitting still."

The suicide rate in the small cities in this country leaped from 13.6 per 100,000 for the decade ending 1910 to 19.8 for 1911. The report states, "Causes for suicide seem to be more potent as the race progresses and its interests become more complex, giving rise to social and moral discontent." If recreation offers an antidote to this increasing complexity, is not recreation one of the most vital interest of today?

Mary Fanton Roberts writes in *The Craftsman*, "We shall not develop fully as a nation without the enjoyment of emotional arts, because no people can achieve all that the sensitive among them desire without expressing the hunger for beauty that is deep in their hearts. A nation must sing, must dance, must make its own music to realize its portion of the world's power of beauty. We certainly can never convert a nation to the knowledge and value and joy of a beautiful rhythmical expression through instruction in dancing, through lectures and essays and schools. The

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desire for it has got to spring up in the hearts of the people, and its growth as an art has got to be the spontaneous naïve and joyous expression of that desire."

Mrs. Simkhovitch, of Greenwich House, New York, has made an interesting study of the street gang. She finds that one of the three important causes of the present form of gang life is inadequate recreation for the younger boys. She recommends providing more recreation centers in every industrial neighborhood and providing afternoon recreation centers for children.

The National Federation of Settlements after a careful study of the problem of the adolescent girl in suggesting the next steps places first on the list the multiplication of recreation, both indoor and outdoor on playgrounds properly supervised.

The chief of police in a certain city, and it is a good city, was asked by the vice commission if, through his patrolmen, he would count the girls under eighteen years, or apparently under eighteen years, who were out upon the streets between the hours of ten-thirty at night and two-thirty in the morning. They were not to count the bad girls, not girls in the dance hall, nor in the theatre, nor those who were properly escorted, nor those who were evidently going to some definite place, with some definite purpose, but just the girls who were idling along seeking some diversion, some amusement—girls who were loitering on the edge of that precipice over which so many fall to destruction. In one night the patrolmen counted sixteen hundred and forty-six girls in the first bloom of their youth and innocence. And we all know, and the patrolmen knew that these girls were every one in danger.

In reporting on the social activities of the Bellevue Tuberculosis Clinic, Miss Sara E. Shaw, who is in charge of the work, says that many times they find the reason which boys give for delinquency is "No room to play games nowhere." If he stays in the home "something always busts and it's blamed on me."

The Committee on Standards of Living and Labor of the National Conference of Charities in their report prepared after three years of labor state that a living wage must be sufficiently ample to provide for recreation for the family.

At one of the Hampton negro conferences there was a very spirited discussion as to the need of recreation for negroes. While some of the workers were inclined to doubt the right of recreation to an important place, yet the general sense of the conference was

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that work must be done at once to provide elevating, organized play instead of loafing and loitering; that the church and the school have too long said, "Don't." Instances were given of the enthusiastic reception of opportunities for such recreation.

An Attempt to Give Every Child in the City of Hartford an Opportunity to Play

George A. Parker, Superintendent of Parks in Hartford, Conn., made a study of the number of children under ten years of age in Hartford and found that out of 11,000 children only about one-third were so situated that they could use the existing playgrounds, that about 8,000 children were left to shift for themselves while out of school during the vacation.

A careful search was made for vacant lots throughout the city which might be used for playgrounds and plans drawn up to arrange sufficient playgrounds on these vacant lots so that no child in the city would need to go more than five minutes walk from home in order to play on one of the grounds. All the owners consulted consented to the use of their lands for play purposes without expense to the city.

The Juvenile Commission of Hartford recommended to the city government the appropriation of \$5,000 to help meet the expense of this work. \$2,500 was appropriated.

Mr. Parker reports that owners of private property were a little doubtful as to what effect the establishment of playgrounds on their unused land would have on the tenants of houses near-by and were a little reluctant to have the playgrounds installed. After the playgrounds were established, however, they were very favorable and other owners of their own accord suggested that playgrounds be put on their premises.

Addison Bain, of Marion, Ohio, was so deeply interested in the development of the playground and recreation work of his city that he offered to serve as park superintendent without salary since there was no money in the treasury to enable the city to employ such a worker.

The W. C. T. U. believing that in the public playground may be found a substitute for the saloon through providing recreation, entertainment and a place to spend leisure hours, has made co-operation with the recreation movement one of the prominent activities of its department of physical education. The National Physical Education Department has issued a bulletin of suggestions

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for a Loyal Temperance League field day, giving program, hints and games.

A collection was taken up among the people of one district in Portland, Oregon, in which there were no playgrounds and a green sward by St. David's Church equipped and supervised as a playground for babies.

A night policeman in Monongahela, Pa., secured lights for a small lot and taught thirty or forty boys boxing and other forms of athletics several hours each evening.

Streets Closed for Play

The late Mayor Gaynor, of New York City, was always the friend of boys and baseball. Acting with Mr. Stover, then Commissioner of parks; the mayor once turned over West Street in the warehouse and pier district, which was practically deserted on Sunday, to the boys for baseball on that day. Asked under what law they acted, the commissioner replied, "The law of common sense and good nature." At another time a lad wrote to Mayor Gaynor, complaining that when he and his companions were playing ball on a vacant lot with the permission of the owner, the police drove them away. Mayor Gaynor responded:

"Dear Master Van Beuren: Your letter complaining of the police chasing you and your companions out of the lot where you play ball is at hand. I will take charge of the matter and see what we can do. Most of the police behave with intelligence, but I am sorry to say there are a few stupid ones on the force yet that we would like to get rid of. A policeman ought to be the friend of the boys on his beat. I am very desirous of having the police let the boys play on every available lot or space in the city. In this case you have the permission of the owners and I do not see why the police meddle with you except to see that your ball does not fly over the fence and hit some one. You boys have to play somewhere. The people who think you ought to stay in the house all the time are also very stupid or else very ill-natured.

Sincerely yours, W. J. GAYNOR, *Mayor*"

Another friend of the children, named, oddly enough, August Friend, a retired blacksmith, upon hearing that policemen had driven youthful coasters away from a hill near Sheepshead Bay, New York City, because a resident complained of their noise, promptly leased the hill for \$250 and put up a sign, "Coasters

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wanted"—with the result that the children of Sheepshead believe in fairies.

New York City has recently closed streets for play between three and six o'clock in the afternoon in twenty-one blocks in Manhattan and five in Brooklyn. The Police Commissioner, under whose direction the streets are closed, hopes to increase this number until practically all of the children in congested districts may have some little chance for outdoor play. It was necessary at first to explain to the residents and store-keepers along the way how important the child's opportunity to play is to the civic future but in a short time enthusiastic co-operation was received from all. When goods are to be delivered in the block a policeman stationed near permits the driver to go slowly through on his errand.

It has been difficult to secure sufficient play leaders but the People's Institute has provided some, several settlements have provided others, the Second Street Mothers' Association has helped, and now a public-spirited woman, Miss Alice Lewisohn, has agreed to put funds at the disposal of the Parks and Playground Association for this purpose.

The Police Commissioner's report for July and August showed a decrease of 47 in the number of street accidents to children as compared with the same months last year. Of course street playgrounds are but a temporary solution. Streets are not primarily playgrounds and children have a right to the best of playgrounds. But until the cities can solve the tremendous problem of providing adequate space, the neat little sign, "Street Closed for Play" will be a very welcome one, marking a step in the recognition of the "inalienable right." Chicago and Washington have long had such play zones. Detroit is trying it and other cities have adopted it. Denver, too, has streets closed for coasting and sleds are furnished poor children and bonfires and benches for all. One hundred and seventy school yards have also been opened up with play leaders for New York City children after school hours.

The Mayor Looks Out for the Children

Mayor S. T. Noble, of Rockville, Connecticut, personally leased a plot containing several acres, which will be laid out for football and baseball. He has had a gateway cut through the West Street School yard, in which playground apparatus was

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recently installed, so that the children can go directly from the school yard to the new public playground.

The new Commissioner of Immigration, Frederick C. Howe, has long been active in the recreation movement. One of his first changes at Ellis Island has been to provide a leader for the play of the children detained there. Swedes, Italians, Mexicans, Irish seem somehow to be able to play together. Play is a good introduction to America for the playground is one of America's most distinctive developments.

Recreation and Unemployed

The city park commission of Youngstown, Ohio, has instructed the superintendent to secure data concerning needed park improvements, including new tennis courts, so that it could be determined how large a bond issue would be necessary to give work to the unemployed in making these improvements.

Many other cities have the same problem of unemployment and could—?

THE SCHOOLS AND PLAY

One of the most interesting developments is the increasing responsibility for children's recreation and for more adequate use of school houses which school boards and other school officials are assuming. The state school authorities of Illinois require an ample playground for the certificate "standard school," in the rural districts, and for a "superior diploma" for a one-room school, a playground of at least one and one half acres, level, covered with good grass and provided with trees and shrubs.

The department of education of the State of California issues bulletins urging attention to the play of the children in all the schoolhouses and school-yards of the State. The Superintendent of Schools of Schenectady, N. Y., hopes to have no ward without a playground in 1915.

John G. Thompson, principal of the Massachusetts State Normal School at Fitchburg in speaking of the land rented for gardens and playgrounds, states, "No school for the training of teachers for the grades in the public schools is considered fully equipped unless it has land for gardening and for play."

A letter calling to the attention of parents the tendency of young people to dance unlovely and unrefined dances in unlovely and unrefined positions, and urging the parents to attend and

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take part in the school dances, even if only in the grand march, was sent to all parents of pupils in the University High School of the School of Education in Chicago, Ill. Many parents followed the suggestion and by the end of the first evening not one improper position was seen on the floor!

The Board of Education of Newark, New Jersey, sent out a questionnaire to five hundred citizens. About two hundred and fifty replies were received. The results follow:

Shall school buildings be used for:			
	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	
1. Political meetings?	153	95	
2. Election purposes?	166	81	
3. Religious purposes?	85	156	
4. Social purposes?	199	48	
5. Gymnastic exercises?	201	47	
6. Dances?	151	98	
7. Meetings of civic improvement associations?	234	15	
8. Entertainments in which individuals profit?	17	227	
9. Entertainments in which associations profit?	29	219	
10. Building and loan association meetings?	100	143	
	<i>All</i>	<i>Part</i>	<i>None</i>
11. What proportion of expense should be borne by the Board?	55	54	121

It was decided to grant permission for the use of the school for political meetings, meetings of civic improvement associations, social purposes, gymnastic exercises, and dances.

An idea of the contribution of the teachers of America to the playground movement may be gained from an experience in Ottawa, Illinois:

"The problem was this: Given an unattractive, ill-smelling dump, how evolve from this a place where children would want to play? The answer was: Two dollars worth of lumber plus a borrowed hatchet, plus a self-sacrificing school teacher willing to give up a month of her vacation for the sake of the children—a well conducted playground where 360 children had a good time. It meant gaining the good will of the community, but this was done, and the men and the boys gladly gave their labor. A few

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of the citizens gave money, and the women's club supported the movement, but the energy and self-sacrificing spirit have been the main elements in the situation."

At the meetings of the National Education Association the most ringing utterances have been called forth whenever the relation of the public schools to the movements for recreational, social and civic opportunity has been considered. The movement for healthful, wholesome, joyous recreation has been held to be the most effective anti-vice, anti-saloon, anti-cigarette, anti-gambling influence, and a positive training in morals. A recreational survey of every community has been urged to discover the facilities and agencies lacking or available for the play of the people, both younger and older. "All the schools in all the states in the service of all the people" was the demand to meet the greater exactions which our more direct democracy is certain to make upon every American.

In Germany an experiment was made to ascertain the effects of physical training on the regular scholastic work. Two schools were selected, in one of which pupils were given a great deal of time for exercise and play in the open air. At the end of a year the school which devoted one-fourth of its time to physical training and recreation not only equaled, but surpassed the other in scholarship.

A supervising superintendent in the Philippine Islands says that baseball, which is practically a new game there, has done more within the last few years for the civilization of the adult Filipino than have the army, navy, commerce, and the school. Baseball has appealed to them as no other game has, not even excepting cock-fighting. It has brought together many tribes formerly hostile to one another; it has shown them that they are much alike, and that they really have a common interest; it has taught them to give and take without arousing enmity, has taught them that they need an umpire who is just and truthful, and has led them to a desire that fair means only should be used.

The teachers of Washington County, Maine, passed the following series of resolutions which excited much favorable comment:

Whereas, the noon hour in our rural schools has been, and is, a moral menace to such schools, be it resolved:

(a) That superintendents be urged to request or require, in engaging teachers, that such teachers are to remain at the building

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during the noon hour, and that remuneration be given for this extra work.

(b) That teachers be urged to exert such influence over both parents and children that wholesome lunches be provided; that the teacher prepare hot cocoa or something similar for the children and teach them simple lessons in courtesy, neatness and hygiene during their participation in lunch.

(c) That the teachers closely supervise the playground, and that the children be urged to bring to school dolls, toys and games, for use during the noon hour, when the weather forbids outdoor play.

A writer in Lippincott's Magazine tells of an early experiment in play schools:

Play Schools Some years ago one of my friends—a college man of fertile ideas—taught a country school in a western State. He was seeking health, and he conceived the idea that as he didn't like to be cooped up in the schoolhouse on pleasant days, probably the children didn't either. So on fine days he took them out into the fields, up on the hills or down by the brook. All the time they were picnicking, he was teaching them geography, astronomy, geology, zoology, and—though they didn't know it—the three R's as well. At first he was laughed at, then remonstrated with, and finally brought up with a round turn. Parents joined with the directors in saying that this foolishness must stop. He hadn't been hired to loaf and play with the children but to teach them, and if he didn't want to do his work properly he could leave. He refused to resign, but stipulated that at the end of the month—making three in all that he had taught—his scholars should be examined by the county superintendent. The result was that he came off with flying colors so far as the examination was concerned, but he was too far in advance of that neighborhood and soon left—to the great regret of his pupils. He planted some seed, however, destined to produce results. I know of three minds which were at this time stimulated sufficiently to accomplish great things in later life.

The most notable attempts at play schools where play is an integral part of the school curriculum have been at Gary, Indiana, and at Columbus, Ohio, and at the summer play school conducted by the University of California. Oakland, California, and Grand Rapids, Michigan, have open-air schools and many other cities have one or more out-door classes.

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The Pennsylvania State Board of Education has announced that it will approve no plans for school building unless proper provisions are made for playgrounds. Spokane, Washington, requires a block about each school building. The supervisor of Indian schools sent a letter to his superintendents emphasizing the need of outdoor play especially for Indians. In Devil's Lake, North Dakota, the school board rents a hall for two hours after school to provide basketball. Chewelah, Washington, and Alameda, California, have organized teacher's leagues to supervise and promote play on the school grounds. A grammar school athletic league in Fitchburg, Mass., brought almost every boy in the city into its events

LIBRARIES AND PLAY

No other agency has stood more loyally by the recreation movement than the public libraries—as in the nature of things is right since their interests lie close and the two movements are interdependent. Dallas, Denver, and St. Louis have made great progress in working out a close co-operation. The St. Louis Library allows its books to be taken to the surrounding gardens and terraces—delightful recreation in an open-air reading room. Many of the public libraries are co-operating with the playgrounds by sending books, conducting reading rooms, and holding story hours.

The suggestion has been made that public libraries could assist the cause of recreation by lending games under the same conditions as books are lent. The suggestion finds favor with many recreation workers. It was tried in St. Paul, Minn., first in connection with the public library and then at one of the small city schools in an outlying district. It was not successful in either place. The noise, confusion and crowds accompanying the lending of the games hampered the circulation of books, and parts of the games were lost before they had been lent more than once or twice. However, it is very possible that consideration of this matter and a little work as to methods of handling the games would make this suggestion practicable. If the games could be catalogued and a system of lending them worked out such practice might become a success.

RURAL PLAY

Stimulating news comes from many parts of the country of the

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rising of rural communities to correct poor recreational conditions and make country life happier and more sociable.

The North Dakota Country Life Conference devoted many hours to the consideration of the recreational life of the people of that State, and the possibilities of recreation through the church, the school and the home.

In Neenah, Wisconsin, the public school teachers have organized to teach old-fashioned games; a public play center and a public park are being arranged for. The State Normal School at Troy, Alabama, headed a movement in co-operation with the State Health and Medical Department and other State Institutions to provide social entertainments throughout Pike County. In Rock Creek, Illinois, the Fourth is celebrated by a "Wild Animal" show, when the boys bring their pets and parade. Afterwards the country-side sits down at a great open-air dinner. Fifteen churches in Galesburg, Illinois, are banded together with committees whose duty it is to provide musical and literary entertainments and lectures in the winter. In the summer Knox College recreation field is used as a city playground.

Bennington County, Vermont, has an Improvement Society with eight paid workers—the secretary, a good roads specialist, a district nurse and an educational expert who has charge of the consolidated schools among them. Directed play in the schools throughout the county, a lyceum bureau, corn clubs are also maintained in this progressive county. Little Falls, New York, has a "Citizen's Union" building with a secretary in charge, which provides recreation and social life for the town.

Milton, Massachusetts, has a club house, the lower floor used for a library. A barn behind the house has been fitted up as a gymnasium. A large playground lies near the house. In East Milton, Cunningham Park and Gymnasium supply recreation to about three hundred members, each paying one dollar a year.

O. F. Field, of the department of physical education of the University of Missouri, is a confident believer in the appeal of athletics and other forms of play to rural communities. He narrates a tale of a Y. M. C. A. camp which unwittingly drew all the spectators from a commercial "big Fourth of July carnival and celebration" to a simple amateur athletic meet with races, swimming and games! His experience, supported by that of a number of other men in similar positions, is that the country boy, though

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unevenly developed, is intensely interested in play when he is given a chance. In his back and arms he is stronger than his city comrade, but he has little use of the finer muscles and his co-ordination of muscles is very poor.

Rural School Play in Texas

Opportunity for play has been given to the boys and girls of a small rural school at Mooreville, Texas, through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Moodie. Home-made giant strides were so popular that the children arrived before eight-thirty in the frosty mornings of February in order to get a "turn"—an excellent means of lowering the tardiness average. The strides were in use also after school and the parents came down and played until bedtime. Five girls' teams and three boys' teams for basket-ball were organized. A complete track meet for both sexes drew ninety-eight percent of all enrolled students to participate. Of the remaining two percent three children did not care to enter; the rest were too small. Playing together boys and girls developed a beautiful comradeship, thus entirely obviating many old problems.

PLAYGROUNDS COST BUT SAVE MORE THAN COST

The world is waking up to the fact that nothing is too good for the children; that there is nothing in the world more worthy of service and expense than the bodies and souls of the children. One neighborhood spends \$227,000 for a single playground site. A city of 37,000 population has twenty-nine acres devoted exclusively to recreation. At one time two cities in New York State had for sale,—one a hundred thousand dollars' worth of playground bonds, the other ninety-five thousand dollars' worth of bonds for recreation grounds. By a single vote the Chattanooga Council provided for a \$250,000 bond issue for playgrounds and parks.

That these expenditures are good business as well as of social value is proved by the experience of Kansas City, where the assessed value of land in the North and South Park Districts was increased 69.8 per cent, through the development of park land under the Park Board.

Many have testified as to the effect of parks in increasing land values.

The superintendent of the park department of Lowell, Mass.: "As to increases of property valuations arising from the influence of parks, in two sections of the city we had two parcels of land given

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for parks. Previous to that time the surrounding property was pasture land. To-day, the fact that there is hardly a vacant lot near either of these parks, goes to show that parks increase property values. In a manufacturing city like Lowell where a large proportion of the inhabitants are confined inside factories during the week it is necessary that they have some place to go for rest and recreation, and there is no place in which they can have that rest as cheaply as in public parks. Well-kept parks are an excellent advertisement for any city and they will attract capital and home seekers."

The mayor of Charleston, S. C.: "I should say there are in many instances increased property valuations arising from the improvement and development of the parks. I consider that they are an enormous influence on the public health. In southern cities especially park space is very much needed "

The superintendent of parks in Waterbury, Conn: "The estimate of the increase of property values in the vicinity of the parks is 50 per cent, and at Hamilton park, the largest in the city, 100 per cent. The public health is benefitted because of the athletic field, the swimming pool and the children's playground."

The chief engineer of Portland, Maine: "An illustration of the increased value of property resulting from park improvement may be had from the following: Some years ago the city purchased about 80,530 square feet of land for what is now Fort Allen park. The price paid was \$15,000, or about 18 cents per square foot. During the year 1911 land adjoining this park was condemned and an award of \$13,096 was made on an area of 46,000 square feet, or about 26 cents per square foot. Two-thirds of this land is on a steep hill side unavailable for building purposes and the uplands, which are of the same character as the land purchased some years ago, were estimated to be valued at 60 cents per square foot. There is no question that other lands adjoining the parks have increased in value in the same proportion. Public parks are a valuable asset in promoting the health of a community, especially among the poorer classes who are unable to get away from the cities and to breathe the pure air laden with the odor of flowers. It has been said that parks are a luxury for the rich to enjoy, but this is generally acknowledged to be a mistake. The rich constitute a small percentage of the population of any city. In the summer you will not find these people enjoying the advantages offered by the public parks, but poorer classes find recreation and enjoyment."

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SECURING PLAYGROUNDS

It has been found that demonstration of play activities and utilization of the ardent interest of the children of a city in municipal playgrounds is one of the best forms of campaign for increase or betterment of playgrounds. In Philadelphia, a year or two ago, a "Ten Days for Play" campaign included floods of circulars pointing out the needs, special field days at seven recreation grounds, the annual public school field day, mass meetings, and sermons in all the churches. A ten-days' institute in "supervised play for supervisors" added to the effectiveness of the campaign. Thousands of Philadelphia children and adults wore the official button, declaring, "We want playgrounds!"

A committee of five little boys in Harrisburg, Pa., hearing that the playground which had grown dear to them was to be sold, called on the park commission secretary to tell him he might keep their summer's raffia work and sell it to get money to buy the playground site. The Board of Education of Akron, unable to get land condemned near the high school for a playground, sent a blank ballot on the question home by every pupil, and had others published in a newspaper, votable by any citizen.

In response to an invitation from the playground commission of East Orange a number of children from Arlington, New Jersey, went in a body to play on the Orange playgrounds. This was an effective means of persuading Arlington citizens of the value of playground work. Every child came home convinced that playgrounds were better than streets. The pupils of four public schools in Albany presented a petition to the mayor asking for play spaces about or near the schools.

The constitution adopted by the Indianapolis Playground Association provided for the membership of school children above the sixth grade in groups. Each group elected ten representatives to the Association from its members. Each group member was assessed ten cents, not collected where its payment would work a hardship, seven of which are sent to the city organization.

"If you want a thing well-done—"

The children of one of Rochester's schools were of the same opinion as Miles Standish. The Board of Education assigned a tiny spot by the school building. The children earned the money to pay workmen to plough and level the ground. The children dug post-

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hole after posthole. They helped the carpenter set the posts for the enclosing fence, bring the wire on the posts and painted the posts.

The interest and pride of the children has persisted. The children have cleared the ice on the playground after a snow fall, waited for it to be solid before going upon it, and preserved it in every possible way. One school yard was kept beautiful for weeks after Christmas by Christmas trees dragged from home and Sunday School in the district, and placed so as to hide unattractive posts, bordering the ice pond, giving to the whole place a delicious suggestion of the woods.

PLAY LEADERSHIP

An interesting and perfectly good natured controversy was carried on between a reporter and Superintendent John H. Chase of the Youngstown Playgrounds. Two pictures showing "gangs" marching to a ball game, with the caption "Hail, Hail, The Gang's Here; Pictures Show Two Happy Crowds on Their Way to the 'Unregulated Playground' to Do Battle for the Baseball Championship" accompanied an article setting forth the occasional revolt of the boys from the "apron-strings" and the "don't" and "must" of the playgrounds. This article was later answered by Mr. Chase. He pointed out the analogy between gang control of open spaces and gang control of business or politics; the pluck needed to stand for fair play for all; and the actual methods used by the playground director (such as "Give the little fellow a show," "Come on, boys who's in for a swim?") instead of the "Don't" and "Must" and mentioned incidentally that the pictures were taken by a photographer who broke up a good game of ball on the playground to ask the boys to walk past the camera! Mr. Chase closed with a strong statement of the permanent influence of teaching boys to play the game hard but to play it fairly.

The East Orange Recreation Commission has recommended the employment of one supervisor throughout the year and suggested that if no official recreation center is provided, the supervisor may conduct classes in churches, schools, settlements or other places where there are recreative facilities, and conduct training classes for workers. The plan of using municipal play leaders to make available unused existing opportunities for re-

ESTABLISHING PLAY CENTERS

creation in school buildings, church property and unused private property is growing rapidly.

Playground Training Courses

A few years ago one would not have believed that a thousand men and women would be enrolled in a summer school recreation course in the University of California—or that Cleveland and Philadelphia should have had from three to four hundred enrolled in training classes nor that the New York School of Philanthropy would have a department for the training of recreation workers under the able direction of George E. Johnson, a professor of play, giving all his time to training recreation workers.

WHAT CORPORATIONS ARE DOING TO ESTABLISH PLAY CENTERS

It is no longer unusual to find industrial concerns providing for the recreation of their employees, though they deserve just as much credit for their progressiveness. Most of them take the attitude that it is as advantageous to them as to the employee to have healthy happy workers.

The A. D. Warren Company of Cumberland Mills, Maine, provides a gymnasium and outdoor playground and swimming pool at a cost of \$3,000 a year, for the use of its workers and their wives and children. The initial cost of the gymnasium was about \$10,000 and the swimming pool as much more.

A children's playground is conducted in the toy department of the Rike-Kumler Company of Dayton, Ohio. A roof playground for employees is found on Butler Brothers' building in Chicago. The Union Tool Company and Pacific Electric Railway Company reserved from five to ten per cent of their land for educational and recreational purposes.

The Grand Rapids Refrigerator Company has prepared a playground for its employees and lengthened the noon hour fifteen minutes at its own expense in order to encourage the use of the playground. If the workers desire fifteen minutes more they may take it at their own expense.

The girls employed by the Sunset Telephone Company of Los Angeles have a cafeteria where food is sold at cost, a rest room,

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a sick room with a nurse in charge, a roof garden, all under the direction of a welfare supervisor.

Recreation for	The Emporium, one of San Francisco's
Department Store	largest department stores, obtained a young
Employees	woman who supervised the dancing of the
	store's employees during the noon hours.

Musical programs were given on certain days and she discovered much local talent among the employees, especially the foreigners, whom she has induced to reproduce the folk dances of their country. A marked improvement in manners and conduct has been noted since she took charge, also an interest in songs and music other than a cheap, popular variety.

Many of the big firms in Portland, Oregon, especially the department stores, are providing facilities for recreation for their employees which a few years ago would have been regarded as an impracticable dream. Large rooms with big easy chairs, harmonious colors, and piles of magazines, cozy lunch rooms where hot drinks are free, immaculate hospital rooms with a motherly nurse in charge are becoming almost usual in the city, and in addition many firms employ a welfare secretary.

No great industrial corporation has done more in the matter of providing playgrounds and recreation centers than the United States Steel Corporation. The first playground of this kind was established at the Pennsylvania Works of the National Tube Company, in Pittsburgh. At the plant, which is located in a very congested district, there was a small plot of unused land used as a dump. The first vice-president of the company, a lover of children and of beautiful surroundings, suggested that the lot should be cleaned up and equipped as a playground. This was done and a leader employed. Great credit should be given to the United States Steel Corporation for their consistent recognition of the need of play leadership. It has not been the policy of this corporation to open up a spot and leave it to chance whether it shall be a help or a menace. It has not only provided leaders but has helped in their training by sending them to the recreation congresses. In Duquesne, Pennsylvania, about forty young women, mostly daughters of the workmen in the steel plant, served as volunteer play leaders one year and the following winter engaged an instructor in play and games so that they might be better prepared for their work the next summer. One hundred and one

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playgrounds were opened in 1913 with an average daily attendance during the summer months of 8,688. The equipment is of the best, often including besides the smaller apparatus great swimming pools, which are immensely popular. Not only games for children, but moving pictures, concerts and other recreations are provided for adults. The playgrounds are for the use of the entire neighborhood—not only the families of workers for the steel corporation.

The bulletin of the American Iron and Steel Institute in an editorial upon this work says:

In the interest of the race, the adults of each generation—debtors of the past and trustees of the future—owe it to the young to provide facilities for play. Where a manufacturing company is simply a part of a community, its obligation in this respect is like that of any other portion of the community of similar importance. Where the manufacturing company is the dominant element in a community, its duty in the premises is greater.

The Associated Recreation Clubs of the German-American Button Company of Rochester, New York, include a baseball league, social clubs, dancing clubs, glee clubs and others. The society has purchased a “back stop” for baseball, tennis and croquet equipment and a grand piano. A Tuesday noon hour musicale is regularly given by members of the clubs. Only employees are eligible for membership, even the superintendent of a department being excluded by the constitution.

The dining hall and recreation rooms provided by the company on the ground floor of the main building, and occupying 6000 square feet of floor space, are said to be unsurpassed in America.

If the number of industrial companies providing recreation opportunity for their employees continues to increase, soon the absence of such recreation provision will be noted more than its presence.

PLAY IN OTHER LANDS

The greatest interest is manifested in increasing opportunities for public recreation throughout the world. Letters are constantly received by the Association asking assistance. Lucknow, India, is endeavoring to modify the plans of the American Association to fit the conditions of a paternal government. The super-

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intendent of the schools of Tokio, Japan, visited this country, studying especially open-air schools and playgrounds. In Russia the one children's playground in Sevastopol, under the windows of the police officials, was closed because the children's laughter and shouts interfered with police duties. Comments a newspaper, "What does more interfere with the work for which, unhappily, police officials must be employed, than the health and happiness expressed in the riotous noise of boys and girls at play?"

The Philippines

Moving pictures are used to encourage sanitation and agriculture among the wild tribes in the Philippines. In the cities, the Bureau of Education has promoted baseball and general athletic games and provided fields near the schools. A magnificent athletic field was opened for the teachers' institute and games played, so that they might be carried back by the teachers to their schools.

The site originally chosen for the first public playground in Manila has been enlarged by the condemnation of adjoining property. The big tracts of ground formerly the old moat around the old walled city are being developed as play fields for competitive games. There will be at least ten baseball diamonds, any number of tennis and volley ball courts and soccer foot ball fields. There is plenty of space, and the idea is to have all competitive match games played in these fields, reserving the playground sites for the use of the smaller children, or for simpler games.

School Gardening in Hawaii

Practically all the children in Hawaiian public schools do some yard work. Two schools plant sugar cane on a commercial basis. The work in the gardens consists of clearing and preparing the land; keeping the grounds in order; vegetable gardening; tree-planting. These gardens are not divided into individual plots but are common property.

Social Service for Chinese Students

At a conference for government students in China, Mr. Collins, formerly Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association at the University of Pennsylvania, and now a worker in Tientsin, gave a lecture entitled, "What American Students Are Doing for Society." As a result of the conference, a social service league with branches in every college is to be organized. College boys organized a team of fourteen men to tour the provinces lecturing on the republic, what it is and the responsibilities of the people toward it.

PLAY IN OTHER LANDS

Play as a Substitute for Gambling in China

One of the sophomores of a Chinese university started out to see if he couldn't do something to stop the gambling which is the chief amusement of men and boys during the two or three idle weeks with which this festival is observed. He went at it in a sensible way by starting a subscription for a football, and proceeded to teach the youth of his village to play the Association game. They took to it with avidity and liked it so much they had no time to gamble. Another student, a junior, without any knowledge of what the boy just mentioned was doing, saw the same need and tried to supply it in a similar way. With nothing more than a little rope he fitted up a sort of out-of-door gymnasium where he taught the boys the tug-of-war, rope skipping and allied games.

Owing to the extensive discussion in regard to the general health of the community during a plague in Antung, China, much interest has developed with regard to parks and playgrounds for the Chinese and definite steps have been taken toward providing recreation facilities. A large tract of land has been secured and extensive improvements are being made. Driveways are being laid out and teahouses and other places of entertainment built, and it is said the plans include a tennis court.

Erfurt, Germany, has miles of forest thrown open for public recreation, besides playgrounds, bathing beaches and vacation camps. The city also conducts a municipal theatre and lectures and concerts. Berlin is building apartment houses covering but half the lot, the other half devoted to playgrounds. Munich has 190 playgrounds; Hamburg and Dresden 72. Space has been set aside for sandpiles in Copenhagen.

Any citizen of Dresden may rent a small plot for gardening on the edge of town at a rate of two cents a square yard per year, with a slight additional cost for water. A committee assists in keeping a somewhat uniform scheme and in promoting the beautifying of the plots. Many have small summer houses where the family can picnic. Strawberries, peas, beans and carrots abound, and even fruit trees are grown in some plots.

A Letter from Finland

A letter from a prominent Finn tells of play interest in Finland: "I have had much use for your lantern slides. Last winter I gave about 130 lectures on play athletics and at about 100 occasions I

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showed a set of lantern slides, comprising about 40 on play and 30 on Olympic Games. Olympic Games and the preparation for them is the interesting topic for the Finnish public and I am arguing everywhere that good playgrounds and good teachers of play are absolutely necessary if we want to become a great athletic nation. Playgrounds do the most important—the moulding work! The coaches only finish what others have begun.

"I am now a professional coach but I devote most of my time to lecturing and writing on playgrounds. One of the first things I tried to work for was to start baseball in Finland. We cannot adopt the difficult pitching at once. Therefore we must be content either with the long ball or playground baseball pitching, or with our own old way of pitching. Indeed we had a national ball game that is very similar to baseball about 80 years ago, as I learned it from Spalding's big book, and I do not think it is advisable to make any radical changes in the old game. We have only adopted the scoring of baseball, the rule that the batter must reach the first base with his own strike, and several other important rules. But the main structure of the game is as before.

"I must admit that in my old school town I lectured three successive nights to audiences of 400, 600, and 700 persons, and the total number of inhabitants of that town does not exceed 7000. That success was for most part due to your slides. I am acting only as their assistant.

"Now I am in Southern France, at Lyons, participating as a representative for Finland in the Second Congress of the International Amateur Athletic Federation. The Americans are the masters of the situation by sheer force of logic and trained eloquence, and we Finns are very glad to work with them."

After thirty years of negotiations the city council of Paris bought a tract to be transformed into a park and recreation grounds at a total cost of \$20,000,000.

At a meeting of the Play Grounds and Playing Fields Committee of the City Education Committee of Worcester, England, it was recommended that a Worcester City Playgrounds and Playing-Fields Association be formed, the objects of which should be to ascertain and organize the wishes of the people of Worcester as to playgrounds in the city and playing fields in the suburbs for boys and girls and of open resting places not for play; to represent those wishes to public bodies and others, and to invite subscriptions and

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donations to assist the City Council in carrying them out; that on the committee of that Association there should be representatives of the education, health, general purposes, and street committee, and a councillor to represent each ward in order to ensure continuous co-operation between the Association and the municipal authorities.

Canon Wilson spoke of the great progress which had been made in other towns and cities in the country, and said that during the last 20 years in 46 towns outside of London, the number of playing spaces had increased from 173 to 495, and the acreage had increased from 8,147 to 13,596. He said that there was a feeling that the common health was the common wealth, and that children had a right to play as much as men had a right to work. The report was adopted.

Seven cities in Great Britain have municipal golf links. The London Playing Fields Society has acquired an open space of thirty acres, fitted over an old manor house for club rooms, dressing rooms and residence, and appealed for volunteer residents to carry on the work in a district which had before been neglected in social work.

Nearly 200 brass bands competed in the Crystal Palace in London at a national brass band festival before nearly 40,000 people in a contest lasting twelve hours. The test pieces were selections from Rossini's "William Tell," Donizetti's "Emelia" and Balfe's "Bohemian Girl."

Andrew Carnegie's endowment "to bring into the lives of the toiling masses at Dunfermline, Scotland, more of sweetness and light" has resulted in remarkable developments in recreation in that city.

Play in Andrew Carnegie's Birth Place

The Carnegie Dunfermline Trustees have provided Dunfermline, Scotland, with a staff of expert teachers to give instructions in physical exercises in connection with the schools. A college of hygiene and physical training has been instituted by the trustees to train such teachers. The course of study extends over two years. Classes and organizations of various kinds for young men and young women meet in the Dunfermline gymnasium. Provision is made for games as well as physical exercises. The older children have free access to the swimming pond where they are taught by capable instructors

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The young men and the young women have special swimming clubs.

The trustees provide supervisors for the boys at their games on Saturday in the municipal park. The other public park is under the management of the trustees. It is used as a community recreation center and open air music is provided during the summer.

The trustees acquired a park of seven acres to be used exclusively for games, and erected a pavilion with dressing room accommodation for both young men and young women. This park is used in teaching games to the students of the college of hygiene and physical training and also for the games of school children under the supervision of qualified instructors. The trustees have adopted a farsighted policy in not only providing for trained supervision of the Dunfermline playgrounds but also establishing a training school for those who are to direct the play of the children.

Dublin, Ireland, maintains two playgrounds and is working for more. An effort to awaken ideas of citizenship and self-government is made in the election of a May queen and twelve counsellors with a court held periodically to praise or censure the subjects who have sworn fealty, undertaking to obey certain simple rules.

Africa Also

In Port Elizabeth, South Africa, a municipal sea-water bath is open throughout the year. Water polo, diving competitions and swimming races are often held and nearly all children are able to swim at an early age. A number of beautiful parks supply tennis, cricket, football, bowling, and croquet, and in one boating and sailing is offered.

BOOK REVIEWS

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK FOR THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Revised)

BULLETIN No. 40, 1913, BUREAU OF EDUCATION, MANILA BUREAU OF PRINTING

A remarkably complete athletic and play handbook is this—even more adequate than the first edition—published in 1911.

Part I describes general school games; those games are chosen which are simple enough to be practicable everywhere. Part II deals with athletic organization and general rules. Part III gives briefly rules for first aid, hints on training, bibliography, pricelist of apparatus, and a short history of the play-

BOOK REVIEWS

ground movement in the Philippines. Part IV gives playing rules for standard games, such as baseball, basket ball and track events.

BILL'S SCHOOL AND MINE A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS ON EDUCATION

By WILLIAM SUDDARDS FRANKLIN. Published by Franklin, Macnutt and Charles, South Bethlehem, Pa., 1913

The first essay, in a small book filled with longing for a wider reach of education for the boy of today, pictures in pungent and vivid language the joys of the old fashioned country school, where play was a natural and lovely activity. "Bill has a better school . . . but his play and his work seem rather empty." Bill has no barn, Bill knows nothing of the woods and the flowers, the wild rose, and the paw-paw, the silversides and the crops. No, "Bill's school, with all its modern improvements, is in its bigger aspects a bad school—bad because Bill has no opportunity to play as a boy should play, and bad because Bill has no opportunity to work as a boy should work."

The next two essays, "Play as a Training in Application," and "The Energizing of Play," while less poetic, yet have the same crisp, picturesque manner and vivid imagery that compels attention and meditation. A lover of outdoor life himself, and an admirer of the type of manhood produced by rough, hard, yet simple and free boyhood, the author has in his plea done a service to youth.

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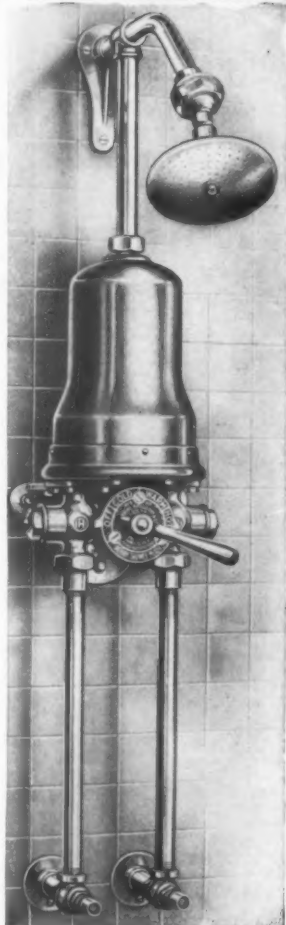
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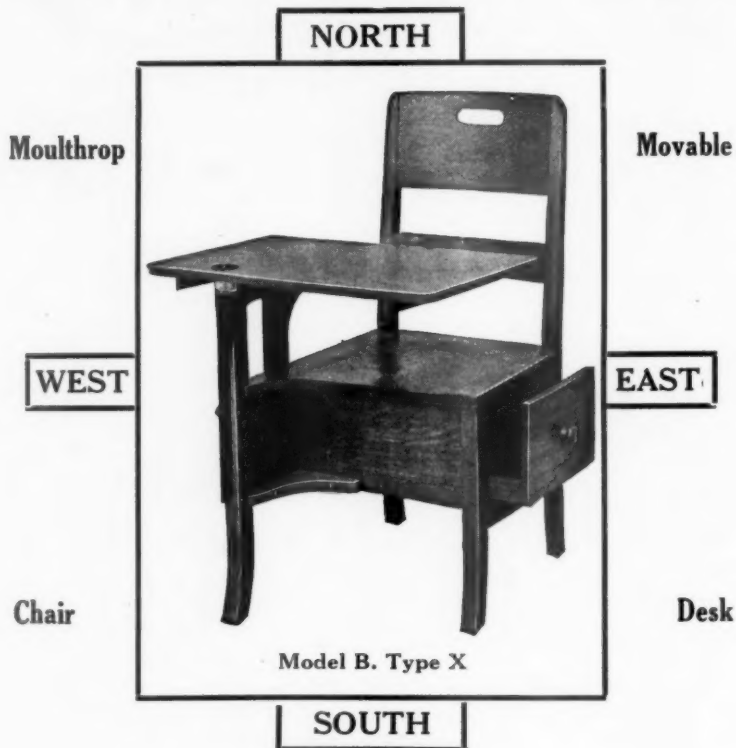
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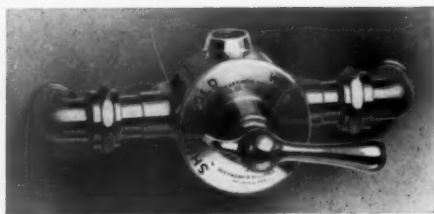
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(SEAL)

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT

One of the readers of *The Playground* sends the following answer of a Jewish boy twelve years old to the question, "What should be the end and aim of education?"

A man who knows how to work. A man who knows how to enjoy himself when not working. And a man who can express himself on resources. And to learn the religions in the world.